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VIA FACSIMILE - 03 PAGES (Including This Cover)

Commissioner for Patents
MAIL STOP: Amendment
POB 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
TRANSMITTED TO USPTO MAIN FACSIMILE NO. 703-872-9306

RE: Akihiko HIRANO *et al.*, US Appl'n No. 10/761,322
Att'y Docket No. 500.38183CC2
Examiner N. Figueroa, AU 2651, USPTO Conf. No. 2662

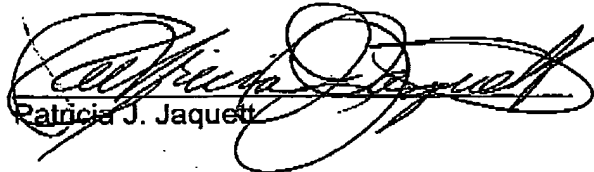
SUBMISSION OF STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE

Sir:

Applicant hereby submits the attached STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE (2 pages) for entry in the above-noted application.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION:

I hereby certify that the attached **STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE** (2 pages) is being **FORMALLY TRANSMITTED** via the USPTO Main Facsimile No. 703-872-9306 on 28 February 2005.


Patricia J. Jaquet

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500.38183CC2/E4977-003ES

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Akihiko HIRANO *et al.*
Serial No. : 10/761,322
Filed : 22 January 2004
For : DECODING APPARATUS AND DECODING METHOD
Group AU : 2651
Examiner : Natalia Figueroa
Conf. No. : 2662

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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

28 February 2005

Sir:

Applicant respectfully acknowledges the teleconference by and between Examiner Natalia Figueroa and Applicant's representative Paul J. Skwlerawski (Reg. No. 32,173) on 25 January 2005, and gratefully thanks the Examiner for such courtesy. In response to the Examiner Interview Summary Record mailed 26 January 2005 in connection with the above case, Applicant respectfully submits the following Statement of Substance.

On 17 November 2004, a non-final Office Action was mailed which did not treat the changes made in a Preliminary Amendment filed in the present application on 27 January 2004. Accordingly, Applicant timely filed a Petition under §1.181 on 29 November 2004, to request a complete Office Action, including consideration of the changes made in the 27 January Preliminary

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Stmt. of Sub. filed 28 February 2005

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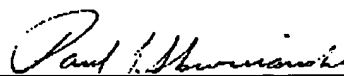
Amendment. Upon review of PAIR on 12 January 2005, Applicant's representative noted that no action had been taken in response to the Petition, and contacted the Examiner. The Examiner indicated that she had taken over the application from the previous Examiner, and accordingly, would review the Petition with her SPE to determine what action would be taken.

On 25 January 2005, the Examiner contacted Applicant's representative and indicated that she would treat the 29 November Petition as a "Request for Reconsideration" of the defective Office Action, which would be vacated. The Examiner then indicated that she would examine and consider the claims presented in the 27 January Preliminary Amendment, and would issue a new and complete Office Action in due course.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the local D.C. area number 703-312-6600, to discuss an Examiner's Amendment or other suggested action for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

This Statement is being filed within one month of the mailing date of the Examiner Interview Summary, and no Petition or fees are required.

Respectfully submitted,



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